

Introduction to PEARs in the Military Training Network

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Objectives

- Introduce PEARS to Military Training Network
- Review special challenges of severe illness in pediatric population
- Understand the role of PEARS in the Military Health System

PEARS

- Pediatric Emergency Assessment, Recognition, and Stabilization
- Focus
 - Prevention
 - Assessment
 - Recognition

PEARS

- Children decompensate rapidly
- Initial contact often not with provider
- Critical to identify children in distress to prevent progression of illness
- Goal to recognize those at risk for progression to severe cardiopulmonary distress

Respiratory

- Respiratory Distress
- Respiratory Failure
- Cardiopulmonary Failure
- **CARDIC ARREST**

Circulatory

- Shock
- Cardiopulmonary Failure
- **CARDIC ARREST**

Sudden Cardiac Event

- **CARDIC ARREST**

Cardiac Arrest

- Often the result of unrecognized or untreated decompensation
- Low survival rate if progresses to arrest
 - Outside hospital 5-12% survive to discharge
 - In hospital 27% survive to discharge
- Goal is to recognize and intervene prior to arrest

Military Training Network

- Opportunity to reach healthcare workers and providers in multiple settings
- Useful in outpatient, inpatient, acute care and ER
- Military Health System with large numbers of personnel that will benefit from PEARS

Target Audience

- Corpsmen, Medics, Med Techs, nurses, non-pediatric providers
- Usually the first to see the patient
- Assessment and intervention in the first critical minutes until help arrives
- Not intended for advanced pediatric providers

Instruction Methods

- Large portion of the course is video based
 - Lessons
 - Patients in various states of distress
- Exam is video based
- Much improved over “guess what I am thinking”

Student Participation

- Video presentations and discussions
- Skills stations
- Video based written test

Course Administration

- Any AHA PALS center with the materials can administer the PEARS course
- PALS instructors are eligible to teach
 - No additional training required
- Necessary equipment already available from PALS course

Conclusions

- Enhance recognition and assessment
- Identify at risk children
- Intervene early
- Stabilize until higher level care available

Questions?